

**Claims**

1. A hedge cutter comprising;

a main body;

5 a cutting head including first and second elongate bladed members, in which at least one of the bladed members is adapted to be driven to reciprocate longitudinally relative to the other bladed member to effect a cutting action; said cutting head being adapted to be fixable on the main body at at least two alternative spaced positions on the main body;

10 drive means arranged to reciprocate the driven bladed member or members; and

means for setting a direct or indirect connection between the driven bladed member or members and the drive means when the cutting head is in any one of the at least two alternative spaced positions.

15 2. A hedge cutter according to claim 1 wherein each driven bladed member is adapted to co-operate with a drive member of the drive means.

3. A hedge cutter according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the main body  
20 comprises an elongate extension and the cutting head is adapted to be interchangeably fixable on the elongate extension at at least two alternative longitudinally spaced positions on the elongate extension.

4. A hedge cutter according to claim 3 wherein the cutting head is provided  
25 with an elongate blade support bar formed into a channel adapted to receive the drive member.

5. A hedge cutter according to claim 3, when appended to claim 2, or claim 4, wherein the elongate extension is an elongate sheath member which co-operates with the blade support bar and extends along the length of the drive member.

5 6. A hedge cutter according to claim 5 when appended to claim 4, wherein the sheath and the blade support bar are adapted to inter-engage with one another, in a manner that restricts relative movement between them to the longitudinal direction.

10 7. A hedge cutter according to claim 6 wherein the sheath and the blade support bar inter-lock so as to lock together in the lateral direction.

8. A hedge cutter according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein there is provided at least one retractable pin and a plurality of co-operating recesses or holes, whereby the at least one pin and the plurality of holes or recesses are adapted to directly 15 or indirectly connect the driven bladed member or members with a drive member.

9. A hedge cutter according to any one of claims 5 to 8 wherein there is provided means adapted to releasably lock together the sheath and the cutting head.

20 10. A hedge cutter according to claim 9 wherein, the means adapted to releasably lock together the sheath and the cutting head comprises a first member fixed to the blade support bar or the sheath and a second member adapted to releasably engage the first member.

25 11. A hedge cutter according to any one of the preceding claims wherein both bladed members are adapted to be driven to reciprocate longitudinally and both bladed members are provided with drive means arranged to reciprocate them.

12. A hedge cutter according to claim 11 wherein the first and second bladed members are arranged to reciprocate with substantially opposed motion.

5 13. A hedge cutter according to claim 11 or 12 wherein one of the bladed members is adapted to drive the reciprocating action of the other bladed member.

14. A hedge cutter according to any one of claims 11 to 13 wherein the first and second bladed members are connected by a parallel linkage.

10 15. A hedge cutter according to any one of the preceding claims wherein each drive member has a fixed length and is releasably engagable with at least one driven bladed member.

15 16. A hedge cutter according to any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein each drive member is adapted to have a variable length.

17. A hedge cutter according to any one of claims 11 to 12 comprising two drive members, each adapted to reciprocate one of the bladed members.

20 18. A hedge cutter as substantially herein described with reference to any one or more of the accompanying drawings.